



U.S. Congressman

**Mark Steven Kirk**

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois

**\*\* U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, Proudly Serving the People of the 10th District of Illinois \*\*****Website - About Mark - Press Room - Constituent Services - Contact****Featured Video...**

**Featured Video of the Week**  
**06/15/09:** Congressman Kirk discusses his efforts to fight the rise of "Kush" in the suburbs, a new type of "super-marijuana" that is as expensive as crack cocaine. [Click here to view the video clip.](#)

**Kirk In the News...**

6/16/2009: [Lawmakers offer 'practical' health reform plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Moderates to Present Their Health Care Plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Rep. Kirk wants tougher penalties for super pot](#)

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Dear Friends,

American seniors who played by the rules deserve peace of mind. The government's Social Security program is one of the best ways we can provide some of that assurance.

In recent years, criminals armed with the latest technology steal people's identity. Fraudulent credit card charges or online scams can destroy your credit record and wipe out a senior's nest egg.

One of the ways criminals attack the system is by counterfeiting Social Security cards. The card, first designed in 1935, offers little protection against counterfeiters because it lacks a picture, bar code or other security measure common to most other government-issued cards.

Waukegan police report recovering at least 20 false Social Security cards each week. Recently, they found a Russian organized crime outfit making hundreds of counterfeit Social Security cards.

I think we should offer Americans the option of having a Secure Social Security Card. Such a card, modeled after the government's Common Access Card, would make it more difficult to copy and could help seniors prove that fraudulent transactions should not hurt their credit rating.

What do you think?

Please give me your opinion on whether or not Congress should offer Americans the option of having a Secure Social Security card.

Tell Me What You Think:

**Should Congress offer Americans the option of having Secure Social Security cards with a picture, fingerprint, magnetic strip and bar code to block counterfeiters and ID theft?**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Don't Know

**Submit & Join**

Thank you for responding to our survey.

If you are having trouble, [click here](#).**Calculating Your Rebate**

Just fifteen days after overwhelmingly passing the House of Representatives the bipartisan Economic Stimulus plan became law. By May, Illinois taxpayers will receive rebate checks ranging from \$300 (a senior citizen or disabled veteran) to \$2,400 (Married, four children). These rebates will allow families to make a large purchase they have been planning for, or even pay down debt.

**How to Calculate Your Refund**

If You Are:	Your Rebate Is:	Plus:
Single, earning between \$3,000 and \$75,000	\$600	\$300 per dependent child
Married, earning between \$3,000 and \$150,000	\$1,200	\$300 per dependent child
Single, receiving \$3,000 in Social Security or Veterans Benefits	\$300	

Local businesses can make investments in the latest equipment this year with added tax incentives. The Treasury Department estimates that the stimulus package could add 500,000 jobs in 2008.

This important bill also contains a temporary increase in FHA loan limits for Lake and Cook Counties from \$200,160 to \$362,105, giving homeowners the opportunity to refinance adjustable rate mortgages to long-term fixed rate loans through FHASecure. More information is available at [http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?\\_pageid=33,717446&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?_pageid=33,717446&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL).

If you have questions or need more details please call us at 847-940-0202 or visit us on the Web at

[www.house.gov/kirk](http://www.house.gov/kirk).

It is an honor to serve you in Congress.

Very truly yours,

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk  
Member of Congress

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